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DID YOUR 'MOMMY' GET THAT FOR YOU?

QUEBEC FILMMAKER XAVIER DOLAN TALKS MOMMY COMPLEX AFTER HIS LATEST HIT WON JURY PRIZE AT CANNES PAGE 12

Fontana goes with stupidity defence

Judge's decision on whether mayor is guilty of fraud could boil down to how stupid he believes Fontana was PAGE 2

'Tim Hudak is a job-killer'

Unions say they've crunched the numbers on the PC leader's jobs plan and it would cost London 7,000 jobs PAGE 5

Fast food planet (thanks, America)

Global study finds two of three adults in the U.K. are overweight, while the U.S. has about 13 per cent of the world's fat population PAGE 6

NEWS WORTH SHARING.

Leading lights are getting ready for the big show. From left: Fred Cahill, Chris McInnis, Damon Muma and Titus Ferguson are among those involved in the Retro Electro Sideshow. MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

Retro Electro Sideshow a go

Nuit Blanche. Travel to a weird place with this creative project

MIKE DONACHIE
mike.donachie@metronews.ca

Brace yourselves for interdimensional travel because one downtown block is going to take you away.

It's the Retro Electro Sideshow, an event that almost denies rational explanation. It's best to turn it over to its chief organizer, Chris McInnis.

"We're a travelling roadshow, but we're travelling from dimension to dimension," he said. "It's kind of a celebration, bringing together a whole bunch of interactive games and attractions, and then doing it with a sci-fi carnival theme."

Right.

Or try this explanation, from the event's website: "A crazy collection of contraptions and contrivances constructed to engage, amaze and amuse the milling masses."

Whatever it is, it will transform Dundas Street between Talbot and Ridout streets, and the big night is June 14. It's a new addition to Nuit Blanche, and, best of all, it's all free.

Pitch in

- The event is definitely going ahead, but the people behind the Retro Electro Sideshow are still looking for funding.
- People are asked to make pledges, to help cover the costs of the volunteers, at retroelectrosideshow.com.
- Check nuitblanchelondon.ca for more details on Nuit Blanche.

It's presented by Über Cool Stuff, the store owned by McInnis, and the inventive techy people at Unlondon.

"We've got 10 different attractions," said McInnis, who's leading a group of at least 25 volunteers working on the sideshow project. "We've got some big, classic sideshow banners to build some big arches to get people into the carnival frame of mind.

"We're also going to have actors in costume bringing the theme out, doing some interactive storytelling through the night."

What does it take to put an event like this together? Enthusiasm and creativity.

McInnis said there are artists, actors, technical support and people ready to paint things, carry things and generally help out.

There's even a writer creating backstories for all the interdimensional characters to appear on the night.

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NEWS 1

Timeline

A glance at the mayor's trial

Monday: Former Marconi Club general manager Joe DiPietro tells the court he couldn't remember if he was ever told what to do with the $1,700 cheque that spurred the police investigation.

A former Fontana assistant says she was the one who processed the expense claim in question, which came in the midst of a federal budget crunch.

Tuesday: The second hour of a police interrogation video is shown. The tone between Const. Shawn Devine and Fontana isn't friendly. "No stone has been unturned," Devine says of the investigation.

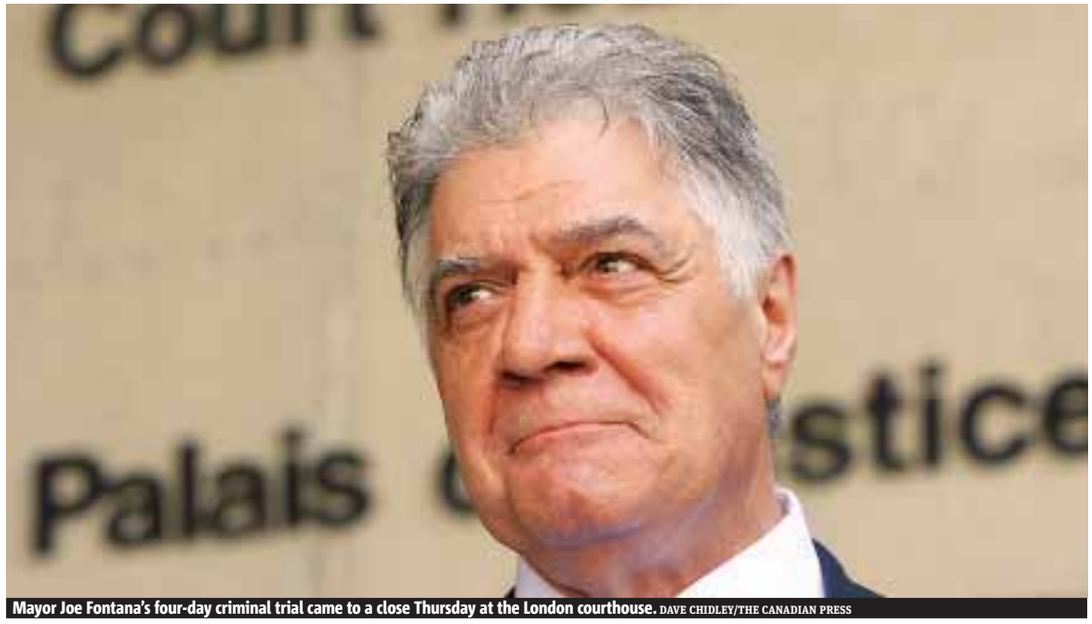
The House of Commons chief financial officer says he noticed discrepancies between a contract Fontana's wife signed with the Marconi Club and the expense claim filed on an altered version of the same contract.

Wednesday: Fontana testifies and is grilled by Crown attorney Tim Zuber.

Zuber: "You were going to line your pockets with $1,700. What do you have to say to that?" Fontana: "Wrong."

Thursday: DiPietro is called back to the stand to dispute earlier testimony by former Marconi president Vince Trovato. Trovato had said DiPietro was on vacation when Fontana booked a club hall for Feb. 25, 2005.

SCOTT TAYLOR/METRO



Mayor Joe Fontana's four-day criminal trial came to a close Thursday at the London courthouse. DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fontana trial ends with unanswered questions

Court. Verdict expected in mid-June

SCOTT TAYLOR
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Joe Fontana was "stupid."

That was the overwhelming consensus from the defence Thursday as the mayor's criminal trial closed.

It's doubtful they would say he's stupid now or that he was stupid when he campaigned to be this city's mayor four years ago.

But his one big "stupid" move came one Saturday in 2005 as he sat at a table in his Arva home with a bottle of whiteout, an eraser and a blue pen — changing the dates on an existing Marconi Club invoice to, the defence says, create a new one for a different bill.

In the end, Superior Court Justice Bruce Thomas's decision on whether Fontana is guilty of fraud, breach of trust and uttering a forged document could boil down to how stupid he believes the mayor was.

If he is to be acquitted, part of the judge's reasoning will have to be that Fontana had no intent to commit an offence — in this case, defraud the Canadian government of $1,700 — when filing an altered document to House of Commons accountants.

The Crown says he did it to have taxpayers foot the bill for a deposit on his son's 2005 wedding reception at London's Marconi Club.

Fontana and his lawyer, Gord Cudmore, contend the then-MP simply made a foolish mistake — using the wedding invoice to create a new one for repayment of money spent on a Feb. 25, 2005, reception for former finance minister Ralph Goodale.

Crown attorney Tim Zuber, making his closing submission, said it's a "strange defence" that "requires some uphill travelling."

He said the expense claim had been "skillfully forged" and that Fontana had added to "the deception and deceit" by adding the word "original" to the previously used document.

Cudmore had an answer for everything, even as Thomas vigorously challenged him on many points.

He argued that Fontana never intended to commit a crime, but rather painstakingly transformed a wedding invoice into an expense claim, line by line, rather than call the Marconi Club to request a new invoice.

Thomas will render his verdict on all three charges June 13.

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Release the hounds.
Bark in the Park returns to the Plunkett Estate

The Plunkett Estate in west London will be turned into a dog lover's paradise on Sunday.

London Humane Society's annual Bark in the Park festival will take over the estate (9282 Elviage Dr.) from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday.

The festival offers a little bit of everything, from best-dressed pooch contests to ultimate trick shows. Plus, dogs and their owners can collect pledges and hit the trails around the estate for a walk-a-thon.

Money raised at the festival goes toward practically everything the non-profit Humane Society does, including abuse investigations, adoptions and caring for thousands of cats, dogs and other animals each year.

The cost is $10 per vehicle. If you've pledged to be part of the walk-a-thon, admission is free.

Check londonhumanesociety.ca/bip.html for details or to donate. METRO

Doggie dock diving in the Plunkett Estate pond is one of the hottest attractions at Bark in the Park. METRO FILE

Boys and Girls Club

Adults play, kids win on Saturday

If you see people covered in shaving cream or kayaking while blindfolded over the weekend, don't be alarmed.

It's all part of the Race for Kids set to take over the downtown on Saturday.

Organized by the Boys and Girls Club of Canada, about 100 people will race through the city in teams of four, solving clues and taking on kid-themed challenges.

The race's theme, Adults Play and Kids Win, sums it up: The challenge is a big fundraiser for the club. It all starts at 10 a.m. at 184 Horton St.

Siskinds law firm earned the nation's top fundraising prize and, to celebrate the accomplishment, nine employees have been doing business this week with their hair dyed pink. METRO

We find the two accused generous on all charges

Where crime does pay.
Mayoral candidate and police chief go on trial to support Crime Stoppers

MIKE DONACHIE
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All eyes were on the London courthouse Thursday as Mayor Joe Fontana's trial came to a close — but two blocks away another mayoral candidate was standing trial.

The Crime Stoppers Jail-a-thon, now in its 25th year, put prominent Londoners before a judge for a good cause. Among the accused standing trial at Covent Garden Market was Coun. Matt Brown, who's running for mayor in the fall, and everyone was facing tongue-in-cheek charges.

Brown was accused of being "out to defeat and de-seat the current mayor" and immediately pleaded guilty, saying, "I throw myself on the mercy of the court."

Brown added: "I suggest a sentence of four years' community service; eight years with good behaviour."

But, in a court staffed by volunteer lawyers and boasting a 100 per cent conviction rate, he was instead hit with a financial penalty. The various accused were making donations and had been raising money for Crime Stoppers.

London's police chief, Brad Duncan, also showed he was a good sport. Duncan was convicted of "apprehending a felon with an untrained canine," a reference to an incident last fall.

Lock him up! Coun. Matt Brown, left, and prosecuting lawyer Ali Chahbar, with Westervelt College students acting as court bailiffs at Thursday's Jail-a-thon. MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

Sustained

As an independent charity, Crime Stoppers raises money to meet costs for the rewards it gives to people who help solve crimes, said volunteer board chair Al Gibson.

- Chief Brad Duncan said the charity plays a vital role in cutting crime and has been instrumental in solving cases including homicides, drug investigations and serious assaults.
- Visit londoncrimestoppers.com to find out more.

As he was walking his golden retriever Mikka at 5:15 a.m., Duncan saw two would-be car thieves and arrested one, physically restraining him while still holding the dog's leash.

One of the volunteers ensuring the fundraiser went ahead was London lawyer Ali Chahbar.

"(Crime Stoppers doesn't) receive a dollar of government funding, and the only money that we have access to is the money we raise," he said.

But what about the big talking point in London? Was there anyone charged with uttering a forged document?

"Not at this court," Chahbar quipped.

Group home plans return unchanged

Correctional services. Company's aims accord with city policy

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Make it smaller, said council members when faced with an east London plan to build a group home for women in the correctional system.

So, when it was discussed at a city hall committee last month, the request was for staff to work with the applicants to change their proposals for 313 Clarke Rd.

Now the application is to return to the planning committee, and it's not changed a bit. That's because it doesn't need to, development consultant Ric Knutson said.

"The city staff have looked at this again on behalf of the committee, and they've come to the same conclusions I have," he said.

St. Leonard's Community Services runs a group home for people with disabilities at the address. It wants to turn it into a centre that can house eight women on parole or probation.

But, last month, neighbours came to city hall to object. They say the expanded home will be too big and won't have enough parking.

But city planners don't agree. The application is to return to council's planning committee Tuesday with the same recommendation as before: that it be allowed because it's appropriate for the area.

It reflects the objectives in the city's official plan, a staff report says.

City policy encourages development "at appropriate locations, of residential facilities that meet the housing needs of persons requiring specialized care."

Making it smaller won't work for the applicant, Knutson said, because its contract with government says it needs eight beds.

313 Clarke Rd.

St. Leonard's Community Services runs a group home for people with disabilities at the address.

- It wants to turn it into a centre that can house eight women on parole or probation.

Barn blaze causes damages at London Dairy Farm on Old Victoria Road

Firefighters were on the scene of a massive fire Thursday at London Dairy Farm. The Old Victoria Road blaze started late Wednesday in a barn, and firefighters were continuing to douse hot spots late Thursday afternoon as hay kept burning. The farm is just south of Highway 401 between Veterans Memorial Parkway and Highbury Avenue. The highway was closed Wednesday night because of heavy smoke. The cause has not been determined. MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

Review.

Varekai soars into hearts

Like most Cirque du Soleil productions, telling someone what Varekai is about is like describing the smell of a baking apple pie or freshly cut grass.

It's good. It's very good. But what is it?

Budweiser Gardens, where the show will be playing until Sunday, has a website that offers up the official story of the show, telling how it's set "at the summit of a volcano, where there exists an extraordinary world, a world where something else is possible. A world called Varekai."

But if you know anything about Cirque — and by this time, who doesn't? — you know they could set a show inside a broom closet, and it would be one of the strangest, most imaginative things you'd ever seen.

Such is the case with Varekai, which starts, incidentally, before it actually starts with a man and a woman doing some improv with unsuspecting guests as they take their seats.

Once it gets going, each scene is in turn breathtaking, sweet, funny and then breathtaking again. It truly is a thing of beauty and beast, depending upon who or what is on stage at that particular moment.

The performers are whirling dervishes of colour and exceptional athletic grace and artistry. Some will dance, others will soar and one very amusing and sentimental scene sees a man singing — in French — "don't give up," as he chases an elusive spotlight across the stage and up into the seats.

My teenage nephew was floored by it all (yep, even a teenager). With a long standing ovation after it was over, it seemed everyone else was, as well. SCOTT TAYLOR/METRO

She did it her way. Horwath still showing confidence despite latest poll results

Andrea Horwath THE CANADIAN PRESS

If Andrea Horwath has regrets about triggering the election, they are too few to mention.

Despite a new poll suggesting the provincial election is not going her way, the NDP leader insisted Thursday the end is not here and she's not worried about facing the final curtain.

"People have an important choice before them on June 12 and I am not going to be so arrogant as to presuppose what choice they're going to make," Horwath told reporters while campaigning in Toronto. "That's the day when the most important poll happens, and I look forward to the choice the people make."

Horwath, who sparked the election by saying her party couldn't support the May 2 budget, stressed she is remaining "neutral" on whether the NDP, which propped up the minority Liberals for two years, would again do so.

A new Forum Research poll released Thursday found Wynne's Liberals and Hudak's Tories tied at 36 per cent apiece, ahead of Horwath's NDP at 20 per cent and Mike Schreiner's Greens at seven per cent.

Pollster Lorne Bozinoff extrapolated the results, projecting the Grits would take 50 seats in the 107-member legislature, with 42 for the Conservatives, who traditionally amass large pluralities in rural constituencies, and 15 for the NDP.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A Liberal view. Wynne says Hudak should admit he's wrong about 'fantasy' plan

Progressive Conservative Leader Tim Hudak needs to come clean about the mistakes his party made in calculating the number of jobs their policies could generate over eight years, Premier Kathleen Wynne said Thursday.

The Liberal leader called Hudak's promise to create a million jobs "fantasy" and "complete and utter fiction."

If he can't get one independent economist to back up his figures, he should redraft his plan before the June 3 televised leaders' debate so they can have an honest exchange, Wynne added.

Admitting you're wrong, she said, is "what we tell our kids (to do), and it's what I say to Tim Hudak today."

The Tory leader, who has already said he'll slash 100,000 public-sector jobs, will have to cut even deeper into education and health care and fire more people to meet his promise to balance the budget in two years, Wynne said.

"It's not Tim Hudak who would pay the price for this math error," Wynne said. "It's you, it's your family, it's your community and it's the people you care about who would have to pay for this mistake."

Quoted

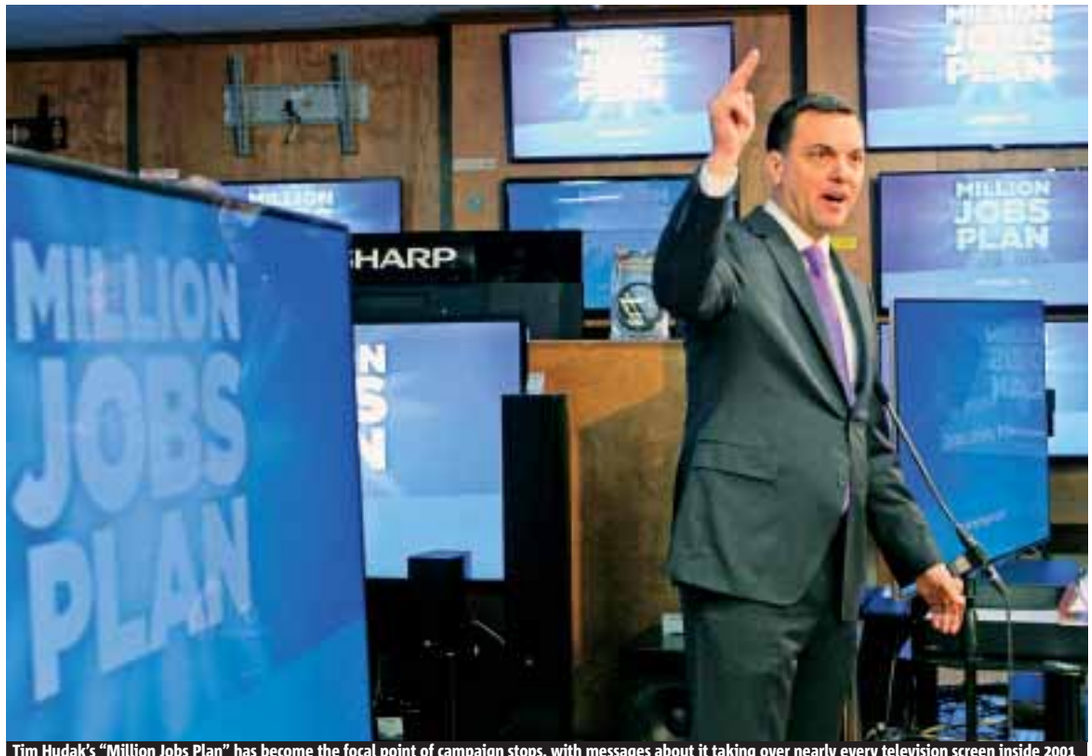
"It can really be hard to admit when you've made a mistake, but it's the right thing to do."
Liberal Leader Kathleen Wynne

Wynne is being "fundamentally dishonest" when she says she can eliminate Ontario's $12.5-billion deficit in 2017-18 without cutting a single job in the public sector and possibly add even more, Hudak said.

Wynne said her party's platform for the June 12 election — an abridged version of the May 1 budget that failed to pass — is fully costed and verified by government officials.

Her government has made changes, such as expanding the powers of nurse-practitioners, to keep increases in health-care spending under three per cent, which no one thought they'd be able to do, she said.

"That is an ongoing process and we will continue to make those kinds of changes across government," Wynne said. THE CANADIAN PRESS


Tim Hudak's "Million Jobs Plan" has become the focal point of campaign stops, with messages about it taking over nearly every television screen inside 2001 Audio Video during a London campaign stop earlier this month. DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Union claims Hudak's plan would cost city 7,000 jobs

Provincial politics. OPSEU chief in London to warn about PC plans to cut public-sector workforce by 100,000

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More than 7,000 jobs in London will be lost if the Progressive Conservatives go through with their plan to cut public-sector workers, a union chief said Thursday.

Smokey Thomas, president of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union, came to town with a message: "Tim Hudak is a job-killer."

The PC plan to reduce the province's public-sector workforce by 100,000 people in order to create a million jobs elsewhere dominated political debate again Thursday, with the Liberals and the New Democrats both launching attacks.

Thomas didn't pull any punches either, saying the PC policy is "ideologically driven," although he also criticized Liberal Leader Kathleen Wynne for including $1 billion worth of cuts in the rejected budget that triggered the June 12 election.

"If (Hudak) believes that he can cut 100,000 jobs out of Ontario, that would represent about a two-point bump in the unemployment rate," Thomas said. "That's pretty substantial."

He added, in a reference to cuts included in the Liberals' budget plan: "We need to be practical in our thinking. But Kathleen Wynne has been drinking that ideological Kool-Aid."

Economists claim Hudak's math is wrong, and say his cuts won't create the number of new jobs pledged. Despite that, Hudak was sticking to his guns Thursday.

"I'll take Kathleen Wynne's plan a bit more seriously if she told me how she was going to balance the budget by increasing spending," he said.

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

By the numbers

OPSEU's estimate of what London will lose if the PCs are elected and move ahead with planned job cuts:

- 4,261 public-sector jobs
- 2,855 private-sector jobs

Jeff Bennett
COURTESY LONDONWEST.ONTARIOPC.COM

London PC candidate's comments about Hudak jumped on by opposition

It was perhaps an unfortunate thing to say.

"I personally don't even believe that Mr. Hudak is in a position to go out and create a million jobs," said the PC candidate for London West.

Jeff Bennett was speaking at the all-candidates debate for the riding on Wednesday night, and his comment was seized upon by supporters of other parties.

It became the subject of a media release by the New Democrats, which includes a YouTube link to video of the statement. The Liberals followed suit later in the day.

But Bennett, who did not return a call from Metro seeking comment Thursday, replied to critics on Twitter, clarifying what he said.

"I said government can merely create an atmosphere for job creation. Only the PC's are prepared," he said.

In a separate tweet, he said, "If we create the right atmosphere it could be more than 1 million jobs. The PC plan can do it." MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

More than two billion people worldwide are overweight: Study

World health. About two in three adults in the U.K. are overweight, making it the fattest country in Western Europe

Almost a third of the world is now fat, and no country has been able to curb obesity rates in the last three decades, according to a new global analysis.

Researchers found more than two billion people worldwide are now overweight or obese. The highest rates were in the Middle East and North Africa, where nearly 60 per cent of men and 65 per cent of women are heavy. The U.S. has about 13 per cent of the world's fat population, a greater percentage than any other country. China and India combined have about 15 per cent.

"It's pretty grim," said Christopher Murray of the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation at the University of Washington, who led the study. He and colleagues reviewed more than 1,700 studies covering 188 countries from 1980 to 2013. "When we realized that not a single country has had a significant decline in obesity, that tells you how hard a challenge this is."

Murray said there was a strong link between income and obesity; in developing countries, as people get richer, their waistlines also tend to start bulging. In many rich countries like the U.S. and Britain, the trend is reversed — though only slightly. Murray said scientists have noticed accompanying spikes in diabetes as obesity has risen and that rates of cancers linked to weight, like pancreatic cancer, are also rising.

Even a few pounds helps

In Britain, the independent health watchdog issued new advice Wednesday recommending that heavy people be sent to free weight-loss classes to drop about three per cent of their weight.

The new report was paid for by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and published online Thursday in Lancet.

Last week, the World Health Organization established a high-level commission tasked with ending childhood obesity.

"Our children are getting fatter," Dr. Margaret Chan, WHO's director-general, said bluntly during a speech at the agency's annual meeting in Geneva. "Parts of the world are quite literally eating themselves to death." Earlier this year, WHO said that no more than five per cent of daily calories should come from sugar.

"Modernization has not been good for health," said obesity expert Syed Shah.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

British Columbia

Addicts win an injunction against the feds

Addicts who were using prescription heroin as part of a clinical trial in Vancouver have won a temporary injunction to continue getting the drug.

It's the second time in recent months that courts have interfered with a federal government attempt to rein in the medical use of otherwise illegal drugs.

Five people filed a lawsuit last fall alleging the federal government is violating their charter rights by denying them access to prescription heroin to treat their addictions.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Newfoundland

Deal finalized to preserve carcass

Newfoundland and Labrador's Memorial University and the Royal Ontario Museum have finalized an agreement that will see the skeleton of a blue whale eventually displayed at the school.

The museum says it will begin dismantling the 23-metre whale this week after it washed ashore in Rocky Harbour on Newfoundland's west coast weeks ago. Officials from the museum travelled to the Woody Point area earlier this month to begin the process of preserving another whale carcass. The whales were crushed or drowned in thick pack ice. THE CANADIAN PRESS

One man's solution to a pothole plague

Entrepreneur Bill Mont fills in some potholes on Canal Street in Dartmouth, N.S., Thursday. The pothole problem in Halifax is so bad, Mont is taking matters into his own hands. "I decided today ... I'm not going to beat my car up anymore.... They're deep holes." A Halifax spokesperson said the pothole problem has been particularly pernicious this year, with more than 8,700 patched since January and another 1,500 still waiting to be done. Jennifer Stewart said residents are asked not to take action like Mont. JEFF HARPER/METRO IN HALIFAX

Veterans Affairs. Fantino accused of ignoring the plight of vets with PTSD

Veterans Affairs is spending an additional $4 million on advertising this year — including television spots throughout the NHL playoffs — but ignoring the plight of families who care for injured soldiers, says the spouse of a vet with post-traumatic stress disorder.

An angry Jenifer Migneault chased after Julian Fantino and demanded to speak to the veterans affairs minister on Thursday after his appearance at a House of Commons committee. But Fantino chose not to stop and explain the government's position. "I'm offended," Migneault said afterward. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Veterans Affairs Minister Julian Fantino attends a Commons veterans committee in Ottawa, Thursday.

FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Study. 'Concerning pattern' of teen boys regularly viewing porn

A survey of thousands of young Canadian students across the country found a "concerning pattern" of teenaged boys seeking out pornography regularly, according to the non-profit organization MediaSmarts, while accounts of sexting were also commonplace.

The Ottawa-based digital literacy group, which was launched as a CRTC initiative in the 1990s, worked with schools and parents in each province and territory to conduct a wide-ranging survey with 5,436 students in Grades 4 through 11 about their lives online. Questions about sexuality were limited to the older students in Grades 7 through 11.

Forty per cent of the boys admitted to looking for porn online, and the ones that did typically said they were frequently searching for it, says Matthew Johnson, director of education for MediaSmarts.

A third of the boys who admitted to viewing porn said they did so daily, another third said they did so at least once a week, and almost one in five said it was at least once a month.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

South Africa. Case of baby girls switched at birth is before the courts

A South African court has approved an investigation into a case of two baby girls mistakenly switched at birth in a hospital in 2010 and given to different mothers who are now in disagreement over how to resolve the traumatic situation.

The Centre for Child Law, a South African group that promotes children's rights, said Thursday that a court has appointed it to find out about the switch at a Boksburg hospital near Johannesburg, and to decide what would be in the children's best interests.

One of the mothers, who is single and unemployed, recently learned about the mistake while trying to get child support. She wants her biological daughter to be placed in her care, and to return the other girl to her biological mother, according to court documents. But the second mother has refused.

"We have to do a comprehensive investigation regarding the circumstances of the swap, the children's current circumstances and what would be in the children's best interests in the long terms," Carina du Toit, an attorney at the Centre for Child Law, wrote in an email to The Associated Press.

"The investigation will include extensive co-operation with psychologists and counsellors," du Toit wrote.

The centre is based in the law faculty at the University of Pretoria. On Monday, a provincial court instructed it to submit a report on the baby swap case within 90 days.

The children, now nearly four years old, were born at Tambo Memorial Hospital on Aug. 2, 2010.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Morgentaler: 1 year later

Protesters gather at Victoria Park on the one-year anniversary of the death of Dr. Henry Morgentaler in Halifax on Thursday, as they campaign for improved access to abortion in Canada.

ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sudan

Woman sentenced to death gives birth

A Sudanese woman sentenced to death earlier this month after refusing to renounce her Christian faith has given birth in prison, local newspapers reported Thursday.

The independent Al-Sudani and Akhbar Al Youm dailies reported that 27-year-old Meriam Ibrahim gave birth to a girl Tuesday at the clinic at the Omdurman women's prison near the capital, Khartoum.

Ibrahim, who is married to a Christian man, was sentenced to death by hanging for apostasy. In light of her pregnancy, the judge allowed her two months to deliver her child and two years for breast-feeding before her execution.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

From left, Jakaya M. Kikwete, president of the United Republic of Tanzania, Queen Rania of Jordan, Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Melinda Gates and Laureen Harper pose for a photograph with students after Harper pledged an additional $3.5 billion over five years towards the government's maternal, newborn and child health initiative in Toronto on Thursday. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

$3.5B pledge for maternal health

New funds. PM says he plans to 'persuade and cajole' other countries to follow suit

The Conservative government pledged an additional $3.5 billion over five years toward the prime minister's maternal, newborn and child health initiative, promising to "cajole" more from other countries.

Stephen Harper announced the new funds, for 2015 to 2020, at a Toronto-area primary school Thursday.

The commitment is slightly more than the $3.25 billion that a coalition of aid groups had been requesting, and was widely lauded by development organizations and international figures attending the summit Harper is hosting this week.

The money builds on Harper's five-year, $2.8-billion commitment to his so-called Muskoka Initiative, unveiled when Canada hosted the G8 summit in 2010.

Rosemary McCarney, a veteran Canadian aid worker who is one of the leaders of a 70-member coalition of aid groups, praised Harper for "a rolling, 10-year commitment, which is very rare in our world."

"We can actually produce real results when we've got time to get systems embedded in remote and rural communities," she added.

Harper said he planned to "persuade and cajole" other governments to follow Canada's lead and pony up more funds.

Dave Toycen, the head of World Vision Canada, said the commitment is significant because it will sustain momentum beyond 2015 on maternal and child health and keep it from being a flavour-of-the-month in the development world.

"I'm really encouraged. It's clear that the prime minister, the government is keeping their commitment," he said.

Harper said expanded funding would go toward immunization, nutrition and birth and death registration. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Criticism

Conference lacks diverse voices, prof says

Stephen Brown, a political science professor who specializes in foreign aid, was highly critical of Harper's approach, though he said the funds are going to a worthy cause.

But with the government continuing to cut foreign-aid spending, this new commitment will only reduce what Canada can do in other areas, he said.

"We're focusing on symptoms and we're abandoning the underlying causes, which are poverty and inequality."

Brown also said the government excluded from the conferences anyone who might be critical of its policies.

"There aren't multiple voices at the table. The summit's a bit narcissistic; we're going to pat ourselves on the back; we're going to invite people who will tell us how great we are."

Harper has made helping young mothers and newborns in developing countries his signature aid priority.

He says the new funds will be focused on helping young children in the first month of life, who die in numbers that experts describe as alarming.

The prime minister is hosting a three-day meeting with experts from around the world, including philanthropist Melinda Gates, who gave the keynote speech at the summit's first full day.

In her speech earlier Thursday, Gates lauded Harper for his "powerful advocacy on behalf of people in developing countries."

"The Muskoka Initiative rallied the entire world around saving mothers and their babies."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Teenage cousins gang-raped, found hanging from tree

India. Two police officers arrested, three more suspects sought

Less than 18 months after the brutal gang rape and murder of a 23-year-old medical student in the capital triggered laws to fight sexual violence, a horrific case in a remote part of central India is again sparking nationwide outrage, but activists say nothing has changed for women.

Two teenage cousins were gang-raped on Tuesday and their bodies were found hanging from a mango tree in Katra village in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh. Villagers found them Wednesday morning, hours after they had disappeared from fields near their home, Atul Saxena, a senior police officer, told the Toronto Star.

The two girls, aged 14 and 15, had reportedly gone to the fields because there was no washroom in their home.

Saxena said the autopsy showed the girls had been raped and strangled before being hung. He said two police constables, ages 19 and 35, had been arrested and a hunt was on for three other suspects. The police constables have been suspended, he said.

On Wednesday, there was tension in the village, which is about 300 kilometres from Lucknow, the capital of Uttar Pradesh. Angry villagers accused the police chief of ignoring a complaint by the girls' family on Tuesday night that the teenagers were missing.

Villagers did not let the police take down the bodies until the accused had been arrested. The chief has been suspended for not taking immediate action, said Saxena.

Following the December 2012 attack on a moving bus, there were protests, vigils and loud demands for stricter laws. The government tightened laws on sexual violence last year. But newspapers are still full of stories of sexual assault, the activists say.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Sobering numbers

22

Government statistics show a rape is committed every 22 minutes in India. Activists say this number is low because most cases are never reported — women are often pressured by their families and even the police to stay quiet about sexual assault.

A woman walks by a morgue and coffins of pro-Russia gunmen killed in fighting with Ukrainian troops for control of the city's airport in Donetsk, Ukraine, on Thursday. VADIM GHIRDA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rebel rocket attack kills 12 in east Ukraine

Ukraine's armed forces suffered devastating new losses Thursday, underlining the scale of the challenge the country faces in quelling a guerrilla-style insurgency that has proven to be agile and ruthless.

A rebel rocket attack brought down a military Mi-8 helicopter ferrying out troops, including a general, on the outskirts of Slovyansk, killing at least 12 people onboard.

Acting president Oleksandr Turchynov told parliament in Kyiv that rebels used a portable air defence missile against the helicopter.

Slovyansk, a city of 120,000 people, has become a focal point for the armed pro-Russia insurgency and has for weeks been encircled by Ukrainian troops.

While Ukrainian forces may be better equipped than their opponents, fears that the standoff could degenerate into brutal urban warfare have so far held authorities back from ordering an all-out assault.

In recent days, Ukrainian troops have taken to deploying mortar shells in their bid to retake Slovyansk, causing civilian casualties and prompting some residents to flee. The tactic has produced few immediate results other than deepening distrust toward the government and instilling fear.

"They are shooting at us from grenade launchers, we hear explosions. The windows of our house are shaking," said resident Olga Mikhailova, who said she was leaving the city for the safety of her family. "I have four children. It is terrifying being here, because I am afraid for their lives."

Russia's Foreign Ministry on Thursday denounced the use of aircraft and artillery against the rebels and demanded that Kyiv end a "fratricidal war and launch a real political dialogue with all political forces and representatives of the regions."

The ministry said it would be impossible to restore peace in Ukraine without ending the government's military action against the rebels and withdrawing Ukrainian troops from the east. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mass killing

Parents of UCSB killer mourn rampage victims

The parents of the young man who carried out the deadly rampage near the University of California, Santa Barbara, say in a statement that they are "crying out in pain for the victims and their families."

On Friday night Elliot Rodger stabbed three people to death in an apartment and then drove through the student community of Isla Vista, fatally shooting three people and wounding 13 others. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Loco-motive

Woman crushed by train in India

A woman was crushed to death after a conductor pushed her off a moving train for boarding the wrong coach early Thursday in western India, police said.

The woman's two children boarded the air-conditioned coach, then the conductor told the woman her tickets entitled them to travel only in a cheaper coach, Officer Hemraj Ambekar said.

Ambekar said police have arrested the conductor and were questioning him and other witnesses.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Missing schoolgirls

President plans full-scale assault on Boko Haram

Nigeria's president Goodluck Jonathan vowed on Thursday to "do everything possible to bring our daughters home," referring to the mass abduction of more than 300 schoolgirls, and said that the Islamic extremists who kidnapped them threaten the country's democratic gains.

He said he has instructed security forces "to launch a full-scale operation to put an end to the impunity of terrorists on our soil," but gave no details. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dre's style the apple of tech companies' eye

Biting into Beats. Gadget giants look to Dr. Dre and Jimmy Iovine on getting to core of what makes wearables functional *and* fashionable

Beats Electronics' colourful, oversized headphones serve as a fashion accessory to cool kids riding the New York City subway, but as tech companies such as Apple, Samsung and others are discovering, wearable gadgets like smartwatches and Google Glass still have a long way to go to become trendy, must-have consumer items.

Apple's $3-billion US purchase of Beats Electronics, by far the company's largest acquisition, is at least in part recognition that Beats founders Dr. Dre and Jimmy Iovine might be able to help Apple incorporate more style and flair into its premium technology gadgets, especially a coming wave of wearable devices.

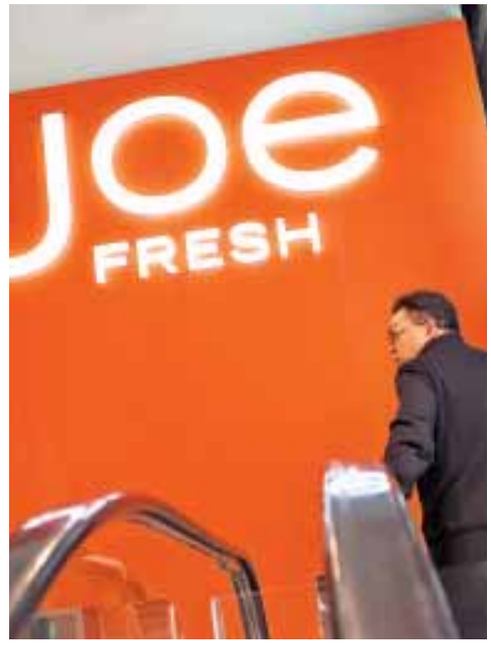
Technology companies see wearables as an important area of growth beyond smartphones and tablets, and many are slowly realizing that if they expect people to wear gadgets — be they bracelets to monitor fitness activity, smartwatches to substitute smartphones or Internet-connected goggles — those devices must focus as much on form as function.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fashion + accessory

"I guess they are accessories, but I would not say they are high fashion."

Alison Minton, a blogger who writes about accessories, jewelry and handbags on accessorygeneration.com



Canadian clothier goes global

A shopper rides an escalator to Joe Fresh in the former Maple Leaf Gardens in Toronto on Thursday. The Canadian clothing brand is betting that affordable fashion is a concept that knows no borders as it opens a location in South Korea this weekend — its first store outside North America. DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Largest company yet

Dish Network to accept bitcoin

Dish Network Corp. says it will become the largest company yet to accept payment in bitcoin.

The satellite TV company says it will begin accepting the digital coins through payment processor Coinbase by September. Coinbase will instantly convert the bitcoins into cash, eliminating the risk of price fluctuations to Dish.

Dish's chief operating officer, Bernie Han, says the idea came from company employees who had become avid bitcoin users.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ex-prime minister

Brian Mulroney set to be named Quebecor chair

Former prime minister Brian Mulroney is set to become chairman of media and telecom company Quebecor in a show of stability following the recent departure of its chief executive and the launch of the controlling shareholder's political career as an avowed separatist.

Mulroney, who has been vice-chairman, is expected to be elected chairman on June 19 when Quebecor holds its annual meeting. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 92.28¢ (+0.33¢)

TSX 14,588.95 (-22.01)

OIL $103.58 US (+$0.86)

GOLD $1,257.10 US (-$2.60)

Natural gas: $4.58 US (-$0.03)
Dow Jones: 16,698.74 (+65.56)

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2011 Civic EX-L - 50,335Km (E0227A) $15,500.00	2009 Accord EX-L - 106,123Km (E0303A) $16,000.00	2011 Civic DX-G - 60,117Km (E0665A) $13,600.00
2010 CR-V EX-L - 149,557Km (E0180A) $16,500.00	2010 Civic EX-L - 53,940Km (E0306A) $14,500.00	2010 Accord EX-L - 60,848Km (UC2223) $18,500.00
2012 Civic Si - 70,039Km (UC2196) $17,300.00	2009 Odyssey Touring - 133,321Km (E0535A) $20,000.00	2010 Fit Sport - 50,577Km (UC2216) $13,600.00

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HONDA

CHASTE BANK OF AMERICA

THE METRO LIST

Mike Benhaim
metronews.ca

1 Casting stones. This week's most illuminating tale is that of the saintly paragons of morality at Chaste Bank of America. Pardon me. CHASE Bank. I never get that right. Anyway, the virtuous crusaders have put their feet piously down on holy ground and courageously shut down the personal bank accounts of adult entertainers. Bravo to this bastion of righteousness for standing high above the rest. Management has yet to officially outline the crackdown criteria, but there's probably nothing to worry about unless you've ever done anything that anyone you've never met thinks is wrong.

2 High aspirations. Former B.C. premier Mike Harcourt is turning over a new leaf. And rolling it into a joint. As chair of the new medical marijuana company True Leaf Medicine Inc., Harcourt believes he can help people cope with pain. The enterprise has applied for a grow licence and will research different strains of cannabis to address various conditions. Despite the tour de force, this politician will still not admit to ever having inhaled himself.

3 Kim Kan. Kan Kanye? Kim Kardashian and Kanye West legitimized their blessed union in lavish fashion last weekend. Kim looked resplendent in her Givenchy dress, which defied critique but for the purity of its white. Ceremony and reception were held in two separate European countries, reminiscent of my own wedding, which took place in two separate rooms, but hey, that's just how I roll. Mazel tov, Kimye.

4 The defence rests. The Indiana Pacers live to fight another day after holding LeBron James to just seven points in Game 5 of the NBA Eastern Conference finals. But the top trending subject in basketball is still #DonaldSterling.

5 Unnatural causes? Word of the week is #TechNeck, which happens when we spend too much time looking down at smartphones. Elle magazine blew the lid off this scientific scoop warning of dire consequences like wrinkles, double chins and loose skin. Unless, of course, you already have these things, in which case, text away.

6 22? Me too! Census Bureau Information revealed that for the first time since 1947, baby boomers are not the majority generation. Apparently, there are now more 22-year-olds than any other age, which explains a lot, but also makes me really wonder, "What the hell was I doing in 1992?"

7 Out of the Blue. Memorial Day turned musical with the renaming of a New York street in honour of jazz legend Miles Davis. On what would have been the trumpet maven's 88th birthday, a stretch of the Upper West Side newly entitled Miles Davis Way further immortalized the bebop bandleader, and forever became a destination for transcendental grooviness. Can you dig it?

8 Travelling Shoes. America mourns the loss of a poet, author and civil-rights activist in the incomparable Maya Angelou. She was 86 and bequeathed her repertoire of words to the world. I leave you with Angelou's line in Tyler Perry's Madea's Family Reunion: "Love is many things. It's varied. One thing it is not, and can never be, is unsure." #RIP

ZOOM

Saving grace in Cracolandia

A woman, left, stands as she sings with members of the Paz e Vida church as other drug users gather in a Cracolandia in a northern slum of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. FELIPE DANA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Preachers minister to addicts in Brazil's 'cracklands'

Dressed immaculately, the evangelical preachers head out to work when night falls. They journey through the gloom into the "cracklands" where addicts consume crack cocaine in open-air dens.

After midnight, hundreds of grime-covered addicts lie on the sidewalks of the Jacarezinho slum. They focus on little more than the next fix, on finding a lighter to put flame to pipe. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

What the tourists in Rio won't see

This horror scene, well hidden from the eyes of tourists heading to Rio for the World Cup,is one some of the preachers know well.

Not long ago, many were addicts themselves. Now they're here to preach the Gospels. They talk of God to those who will listen, hoping to find converts, to rescue souls from the crack epidemic that's swept Brazil in recent years. Pastor Celio Ricardo says he has had hit-and-miss success in persuading users to at least try quitting. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Feeding body before soul

"At first they need to rest because this drug leaves them hallucinated.... They lose hunger, they lose the will to live. They want to drug themselves to death, and here we try to reverse that situation."

Pastor Celio Ricardo,
who says the first challenge is taking care of the physical needs of addicts — only then can they go on to tackle spiritual issues.

METRO AUGMENTED REALITY

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metro AR

In this issue, you can find AR enhancements on page 11 in Scene and page 18 in Sports

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metro AR

MetroTube

Part man, part owl, all viral terror

ANDREW FIFIELD
metronews.ca

The Lord of Tears is a 2013 Scottish horror film starring Owl Man, an avian take on Slender Man, with a distinct interest in a schoolteacher.

So what do people tasked with promoting a movie armed with a ghastly villain do? They take it viral, of course, beginning with spooking bored browsers on Chatroulette. That's cool, I guess.

However, lurking in the shadows is England's abandoned St. Mary's Children's Hospital to terrorize amateur photographers?

GETTY IMAGES

That's terrific stuff. Or fake stuff, perhaps. Note: Obviously, there's some salty language involved. (LordofTearsMovie/YouTube)

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See that symbol? It means you can scan the photo with your Metro News app and watch Charlize Theron teach Seth MacFarlane how to shoot a gun.

Death by a million tired gags

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

Jokes not as wild as the West in MacFarlane's latest film. CONTRIBUTED

Synopsis

Set in Arizona's wild west, MacFarlane is Albert, a mild-mannered sheep farmer who hates the frontier. "It's a disgusting dirty place," he says, "a cesspool of despair." The despair of his day-to-day life is compounded when his girlfriend, Louise (Amanda Seyfried), dumps him and takes up with a wealthy owner of a moustache grooming shop (Neil Patrick Harris). He finds love again with a mysterious stranger Anna (Charlize Theron), who helps him cope with dangerous frontier life and grow a backbone. His newfound courage is tested when Anna's husband, outlaw Clinch (Liam Neeson) rides into town. Steve Gow sits in for Mark Breslin this week.

- **Richard:** ●●●○○
- **Steve:** ●●○○○

Not quite cringeworthy.

MacFarlane disappoints with mostly safe jokes

Richard: Steve, I laughed at A Million Ways to Die in the West, but strangely enough, I was hoping to be more offended by it. Each week on his show Family Guy, Seth MacFarlane manages at least one joke that makes me cringe. I expected him to push the envelope even further for the big screen. Sure there are some wild and crazy jokes here, but they're at the level of Judd Apatow, not MacFarlane. Was it outrageous enough for you?

Steve: It is outrageous, but the brazenness in MacFarlane's big-screen sophomore effort is buried beneath more juvenile gags involving bodily gases than the off-kilter comedy his show or Ted succeeds with. Perhaps by covering off all areas of writing, directing and then hiring himself as the lead, MacFarlane suffers from an inability to self-edit. Speaking of, what do you think of MacFarlane as leading man?

RC: I do find him funny, but I can't help but hear Peter Griffin in his voice and I find that distracting. His part is basically one joke. He's the fish out of water who speaks like a 21st century smart aleck. For instance, as people around him are killed in increasingly wild ways — hence the movie's title — he observes, "We should all just wear coffins for clothes." It's a good line, but his overall performance is more Bob Hope than John Wayne.

SG: It's true but, in this, MacFarlane seems to think his gags are more brilliant than they actually are — as if audiences haven't seen an explosive diarrhea gag before. That said, when he pushes social mores, he goes for the jugular focusing most notably on historic racism. It comes off for some uneven narrative. It's a good thing he surrounds himself with a solid supporting cast.

RC: Comparisons to Blazing Saddles are inevitable. Both movies have social commentary mixed with cringeworthy gags — some may literally make you gag — but A Million Ways to Die in the West doesn't have the satiric subtext that made Mel Brooks' movie great. MacFarlane relies on anachronisms and shock-value jokes to raise a smile, and spends too much time on the love story. Brooks went for the jugular, and 40 years on it's still funny and edgy. A Million Ways to Die does have at least one classic moment that will appeal to everyone over age 30 and the most undignified duel ever, but it doesn't have much resonance.

SG: It doesn't have much heart, either. Although Charlize Theron does a stalwart job playing the romantic interest against MacFarlane's spineless pessimist, the filmmaker's ceaseless determination for punchlines only undermines the film's attempt at circling back to an earnest love story. In that respect, it lies as lifeless as the film's many, many corpses. And that includes the western town's unnoticed, three-day dead mayor.

Ratings and synopses courtesy of Rotten Tomatoes. For more movie reviews, trailers and news go to RottenTomatoes.com. **Ratings:** *Certified Fresh:* *Fresh:* *Rotten:* *Audience response:* *Audience anticipation for the film:* +

Sci-Fi & Fantasy

Maleficent

Director. Robert Stromberg

Stars. Angelina Jolie

Maleficent explores the untold story of Disney's most iconic villain from the classic Sleeping Beauty and the elements of her betrayal that ultimately turn her pure heart to stone. Driven by revenge and a fierce desire to protect the moors over which she presides, Maleficent cruelly places an irrevocable curse upon the human king's newborn infant Aurora. As the child grows, Aurora is caught in the middle of a seething conflict.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: 52% **Audience:** + 98%

Comedy

The Grand Seduction

Director. Don McKellar

Stars. Brendan Gleeson, Gordon Pinsent

A small fishing village must procure a local doctor to secure a lucrative business contract. When unlikely candidate and big city doctor Paul Lewis lands in their lap for a trial residence, the townsfolk rally together to charm him into staying. As the doctor's time in the village winds to a close, acting mayor Murray French has no choice but to pull out all the stops.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: 56% **Audience:** + 71%

Dolan's mama complex

Tom at the Farm.
Young filmmaker admits he's obsessed with the mother figure

Xavier Dolan directs and stars in Tom at the Farm. CONTRIBUTED

Quebec filmmaking whiz Xavier Dolan says his first three films — I Killed My Mother, Heartbeats and Laurence Anyways — are about the subject of impossible love.

But he also admits those movies, as well as subsequent efforts Tom at the Farm and recent Cannes Film Festival hit Mommy, share another link — a certain type of character he has a fixation with.

"I'm obsessed, I think, with the mother figure, obviously," the 25-year-old director-actor-writer said in an interview. "It's always there in my movies."

And so it was that, when Dolan saw Québécois author Michel Marc Bouchard's French-language play Tom a la ferme, he was struck by the widowed mother grieving the loss of one of two sons on her rural property. When her late son's secret lover arrives for the funeral, a dark dynamic develops.

The mother figure was "literally the first thing that hit close to home when I watched the play and decided to adapt it into a movie," said Dolan.

"I was like, 'Whoa, the mom — sick character' ... When I saw her and her being exhausted and living on that farm and being so ... desperate for company, I was like, 'That's inspiring.'"

In Dolan's Tom at the Farm — opening Friday in Toronto and Vancouver, and in Victoria on June 20 — the mother, Agathe, is played with perfect nuance by Lise Roy, who also starred in the play. Pierre-Yves Cardinal brings a chilling intensity to Francis, her son whose dark side emerges when the late brother's partner, Tom (Dolan), visits their Quebec farm from the city and finds it hard to leave.

Bouchard co-wrote the film with Dolan, who had never before based a film on someone else's work. Dolan said he didn't want to be judgmental when it came to the characters living in the countryside.

"I've been brought up in the country half of my childhood and then the other half in town and I don't want this to come off as prejudiced," the Montreal native said in a downtown hotel room at the Toronto International Film Festival.

"These people are crazy, wherever they live. That is a case of sheer insanity that Tom is encountering and it's not about hicks that will (mess) you up," he added, using an expletive. "It's not the way I thought. It's not a Deliverance thing."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The ABCs of Canadian Film

Want to know more about Canada's fascinating film scene? Metro's The ABCs of Canadian Film is the perfect primer for the wannabe Canuck cinephile. Check it out at metronews.ca/abcsofcanadian-film.

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When you're fascinated by failure

Filth. Writer Irvine Welsh has always loved characters whose lives are crumbling

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Scottish author Irvine Welsh has made a career of chronicling not-too-nice characters in books like Trainspotting, Porno and Filth. That last one, about a corrupt, drug-abusing detective vying for a promotion, is the latest of Welsh's works to make it to the screen, with usually very nice James McAvoy in the main role.

In adapting Filth to film, did you worry actors like James McAvoy, Jamie Bell and Imogen Poots might be too pretty to play these characters?
That was the original concern with James. When I first met him he looked about 10 years old, basically, and I thought there's no way he's going to be able to play a 40-year-old divorced alcoholic cop, but he does rough up very well. He really did look the part. The makeup and costume were fantastic, but it was just his way of carrying himself with that sneer
and that alcoholic kind of attitude that he could exude.

It's a very taxing lifestyle this character lives.

James McAvoy (right) plays a convincing middle-aged alcoholic cop in Filth, which opens in select markets Friday. CONTRIBUTED

Yeah, the guy is in complete disintegration. We catch him at a really bad time in his life. If you're a novelist, you're essentially a dramatist, and that's where the drama kind of lies. If we're having a bad time, we start making all the bad decisions, compounding that misery. I think that's where the drama lies. The drama doesn't lie in that nice, hard-working middle class suburban guy who everything is going right with. It's when things start to fall apart in people's lives that things get interesting from a novelistic point of view.

What draws you to these types of characters?
I'm always interested in the mechanisms by which people fail. Failure has always fascinated me. I find it much more interesting than success. Success is pretty boring. If you're successful at something, you just feel good about yourself, and you get on your high horse and start talking nonsense about how you see the world and all that, imparting your wisdom whether people want it or not. But failure comes in all different forms. It teaches you things.

James McAvoy gets to actually be Scottish on screen for once.
Yeah, he does! He's kind of been everything but Scottish in so many roles, so it was very fun for him, I think. And he wasn't even speaking in his own voice. He's from the west of Scotland, and he was speaking in a very east of Scotland accent. Americans won't notice the difference, but to Scottish ears it's very, very apparent, and it's a very difficult thing for somebody from the west of Scotland to pull off convincingly an east of Scotland accent. If you have a Glaswegian do a bad Edinburgh accent, it really hits home.

Any updates on the talks of a Trainspotting sequel?
We actually all got together in a flat last week, the creative team from Trainspotting. We just took an apartment in Edinburgh and hung out together, just to see if it was feasible, to see if we can get a script together. And that's a big challenge. I think we're all conscious of the legacy, and if we just find that we can't get a script together that's at least as good as the original — which is kind of a tall order, really — then we'll just leave it. We won't trash the legacy of the original, but if we come up with something really special that has a bit of magic in it, then sure. Obviously it would be a very different film because the characters in it would be 20 years older, so it wouldn't be a youth movie in the way that Trainspotting was.
But I think there's something interesting about these characters being middle-aged and not coping with it well or pulling one last big scam, centred around the pornography and sex world. But we're still in that stage of trying to find out how viable
it is.

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., MAY 30 TO THURS., JUNE. 5. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Mustang Drive-In -London 2551 Wilton Grove Rd.

Blended (PG) Fri-Thu 9:30
Godzilla (PG) Fri-Thu 11:25
A Million Ways to Die in the West (14A) Fri-Thu 9:35
Neighbors (18A) Fri-Thu 11:30

Hyland Cinema 240 Wharncliffe Road South

The Crow (STC) Fri 11
Fed Up (G) Fri 1-7 Sat-Sun 3:05 Mon 1-7:05 Tue 5:05 Wed 1 Thu 5
Heaven Is for Real (PG) Fri 2:55 Sat 5 Sun 7:05 Mon 3 Tue 1 Wed 2:55 Thu 1
Joe (14A) Sat 9:05 Sun 9 Wed 7 Thu 9
The Railway Man (14A) Fri 4:55-8:55 Sat 1-7 Sun 1-5 Mon 5-9 Tue 3-7 Wed 4:55-9:15 Thu 2:55-6:55

Rainbow Cinemas London

355 Wellington St.

Blended (PG) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:40-7:05-9:35
Edge of Tomorrow (PG) Thu 9:30
Godzilla (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:50-7:10-9:45
The Grand Budapest Hotel (14A) Fri-Wed 9:25
Maleficent (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:20-3:35-7:05-9:25
Million Dollar Arm (PG) Fri-Thu 3:25-6:55
A Million Ways to Die in the West (14A) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:25-7:15-9:40
Neighbors (18A) Fri-Thu 1:15-3:30-7:20-9:30
Rio 2 (G) Fri-Thu 1
X-Men: Days of Future Past (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 1-3:45-7-9:45 Mon-Thu 1-3:45-7-9:45

Western Film Room 340, UCC Building, Argo (14A) Fri-Thu 9:50

Closed for Renovations (STC) Fri-Thu

Wellington 8 Cinemas 983 Wellington Rd. S,

Blended (PG) Fri 7:15-10 Sat-Sun 1:15-4:15-7:15-10 Mon-Thu 7:15-10
Edge of Tomorrow 3D (PG) Thu 9:45
The Fault in Our Stars (PG) Thu 9:40
Godzilla (PG) Sat-Sun 3:20
Godzilla 3D (PG) Fri 6:30-9:25 Sat-Sun 12:30-6:30-9:25 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:25
The Grand Seduction (PG) Fri 6:40-9:20 Sat 12:40-3:30-6:40-9:20 Sun 9:20 Mon-Wed 6:40-9:20 Thu 6:40-9:45 Sun 12:40-3:30-6:40
Maleficent (PG) Sat-Sun 4
Maleficent 3D (PG) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 1-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:30
Million Dollar Arm (PG) Fri 6:45-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:40 Mon-Wed 6:45-9:40 Thu 6:45
A Million Ways to Die in the West (14A) Fri 7:10-9:55 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:10-7:10-9:55 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:55
Neighbors (18A) Fri 7:20-9:45 Sat-Sun 1:20-4:20-7:20-9:45 Mon-Wed 7:20-9:45 Thu 7:20
X-Men: Days of Future Past (PG) Sat-Sun 3:50
X-Men: Days of Future Past 3D (PG) Fri 6:50-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:50-6:50-9:50 Mon-Tue 6:50-9:50 Wed 6:50 Thu 6:50-9:50 Wed 9:50

Cineplex Odeon Westmount & VIP Cinemas 755 Wonderland Road South

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG) Fri-Sun 3:45-7-10:20 Mon 6:35-9:45 Tue 3:45-7-10:20 Wed-Thu 6:35-9:45
Godzilla (PG) Fri 4:45 Sat-Sun 12:50-4 Tue 4:45
Godzilla 3D (PG) Fri 7:45-10:35 Sat-Sun 7:20-10:25 Mon 6:55-9:55 Tue 7:45-10:35 Wed-Thu 6:55-9:55
Maleficent (PG) No Passes Fri 4-6:50-9:20 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:30-4:10-6:50-9:20 No Passes Mon 6:45-9:20 No Passes Tue 4-6:50-9:20 No Passes Wed-Thu 6:45-9:20 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Maleficent 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 5-7:30-10 No Passes Sat-Sun 12-2:35-5:10-7:45-10:15 No Passes Mon 7:25-10 No Passes Tue 5-7:30-10 No Passes Wed-Thu 7:25-10 No Passes Fri 4:15-6:40-9:15 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:55-4:15-6:40-10:05 No Passes Mon 6:40-10:05 No Passes Tue 4:15-6:40-10:05 No Passes Wed-Thu 6:40-10:05

X-Men: Days of Future Past. CONTRIBUTED

A Million Ways to Die in the West (14A) No Passes Fri 4:20-7:10-10:10 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:20-4:10-7:10-10 No Passes Mon 7-9:50 No Passes Tue 4:20-7:10-10:10 No Passes Wed-Thu 7-9:50 No Passes Fri 4:45-7:40-10:30 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:50-4:45-7:40-10:30 No Passes Mon 7:40-10:25 No Passes Tue 4:45-7:40-10:30 No Passes Wed-Thu 7:40-10:25 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Neighbors (18A) Fri 5:20-7:55-10:30 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:05-5:30-7:55-10:30 Mon 7:40-10:20 Tue 5:20-7:55-10:30 Wed-Thu 7:40-10:20
Rio 2 (G) Sat-Sun 1
X-Men: Days of Future Past (PG) No Passes Fri 3:30 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:15-3:30 No Passes Tue 3:30
X-Men: Days of Future Past 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 4:10-6:40-7:20-9:45-10:25 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:10-4:20-6:40-7:30-9:45-10:35 No Passes Mon 6:30-7:10-9:35-10:10 No Passes Tue 4:10-6:40-7:20-9:45-10:25 No Passes Wed-Thu 6:30-7:10-9:35-10:10 No Passes Fri 3:45-7:10-10:05 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:20-3:45-7:10-9:20 No Passes Mon 7:10-9:20 No Passes Tue 3:45-7:10-9:25 No Passes Wed-Thu 7:10-9:20

SilverCity London 1680 Richmond St

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG) Fri-Sun 12:20 Mon 12:30 Tue-Wed 1:40 Thu 12:30
The Amazing Spider-Man 2 3D (PG) Fri 3:35-6:55-10:10 Sat 6:55-10:10 Sun 3:35-6:55 Mon 3:55-9:30 Tue 3:15-6:45-9:55 Wed 3:15-6:50-9:55 Thu 3:40-6:55-9:50
Blended (PG) Fri 1:50-4:35-7:30-10:20 Sat 11:15-1:50-4:35-7:30-10:20 Sun 1:50-4:35-7:30-10:20 Mon 1:20-4:35-7:30-10:15 Tue 1:25-4:35-7:30-10:20 Wed 1:25-4:35-7:30-10:15 Thu 1:20-4:35-7:30-10:15
Driving Miss Daisy: The Play (STC) Wed 7
Edge of Tomorrow: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) No Passes Thu 9:45
Godzilla (PG) Fri-Tue 12:50-4 Wed 4 Thu 12:50-4 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Godzilla 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 7:15-10 Mon-Thu 7:15-10:10
Led Zeppelin ``Celebration'' Day Encore (STC) Mon 7:30
Madagascar 2 (G) Sat 11
Maleficent (PG) No Passes Fri 1:50-4:25-7 No Passes Sat 11:25-1:50-4:25-7 No Passes Sun-Thu 1:50-4:25-7
Maleficent 3D (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 9:30
Maleficent: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) No Passes Fri-Sat 12:15-2:50-5:25-8-10:30 No Passes Sun 12:15-2:50-5:25-8-10:20 No Passes Mon-Wed 1-3:45-6:45-9:45 No Passes Thu 1-3:45-6:45
A Million Ways to Die in the West (14A) No Passes Fri 12:30-1:30-2:30-4:15-5:10-7:05-7:50-9:40-10:35 No Passes Sat 12:25-1:30-2:25-4:15-5:05-7:05-7:45-9:55-10:35 No Passes Sun 12-1:30-2:15-4:15-4:55-7:05-7:35-9:40-10:15 No Passes Mon 1-1:30-3:45-4:35-6:40-7:15-9:20-10 No Passes Tue 1:30-2-4:35-4:55-7:15-7:45-10-10:25 No Passes Wed 2-4:10-4:55-6:55-7:40-9:35-10 No Passes Thu 1-1:30-3:45-4:35-6:40-7:15-9:20-10 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
National Theatre: King Lear - Encore (STC) Sat 12:55
Neighbors (18A) Fri 12:15-3:15-5:45-8:20-10:40 Sat 12:10-3:55-5:45-8:20-10:40 Sun 12-2:40-5-7:10-10:20 Mon 1:40-4:45-7:05-10:15 Tue 12:50-5:10-8-10:25 Wed 12:50-4:45-7:25-10:30 Thu 12:30-2:55-5:15-7:30-10:05
The Night Before Our Stars (STC) No Passes Thu 8:30
The Other Woman (STC) Fri 3:25-7:10-9:50 Sat 4:45-7:25-10:05 Sun 3:25-10:15 Mon 3:25-7:25-10:05 Tue 3:25-7:25-10:25 Wed 3:25-10:20 Thu 3:25-7:05-10:20
Rio 2 (G) Fri 12:40 Sat 11-11:55-2:15 Sun-Thu 12:40
WWE Payback (STC) Sun 8
X-Men: Days of Future Past (PG) No Passes Fri 12:45-3:50-6:55-9:55 No Passes Sat 1:10-4:15-7:20-10:25 No Passes Sun 1:10-4:15-7:20-9:30 No Passes Mon 1:10-4:15-7:20-10:15 No Passes Tue 1:10-4:15-7:25-10 No Passes Wed-Thu 1:10-4:15-7:20-9:40
X-Men: Days of Future Past 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 12:20-1:10-3:25-4:15-6:35-7:20-9:40-10:25 No Passes Sat 12:45-3:25-3:50-6:35-6:55-9:40-10 No Passes Sun 12:20-12:45-3:25-3:50-6:45-6:55-9:40-10 No Passes Mon 12:30-12:45-3:35-3:50-6:50-7:10-9:40-10 No Passes Tue 12:30-12:45-3:35-3:50-6:50-7:10-9:40-10:10 No Passes Wed 12:30-12:45-3:35-3:50-6:50-7:10-9:50-10 No Passes Thu 12:35-12:45-3:35-3:50-6:50-9:55

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'07 Chrys. Sebring	'07 Jeep Gr. Cher. Diesel	'07 Ford Freestar
'07 Dodge Ram 2500	'07 Yam. V-Star 1100 bike	'07 Jeep TJ 4x4
'07 Chev. Uplander	'06 GMC Sierra Z71	'06 Dodge Gr. Caravan
'06 Honda Civic	'06 Ford F150	'06 Nissan Murano AWD
'05 Chev. Avalanche	'05 Chrys. PT Cruiser conv.	'05 Mits. Eclipse conv.
'05 Dodge Ram 1500	'04 VW Touareg AWD	'04 BMW 745i
'04 Sea Doo GTI PWC	'03 Harley Dav. Fatboy	'03 Cadillac Escalade EXT
'02 Ford T-bird conv.	'00 Mercedes SL500 conv.	'99 Mazda Miata MX5

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt arrive at the world premiere of Maleficent in Los Angeles. JOHN SHEARER/INVISION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ukrainian TV host arrested after pulling yet another not-so-funny celeb 'prank'

Angelina Jolie wasn't the only villain at the premiere of Maleficent on Wednesday: A dude came up to Brad Pitt and hit him for no reason.

Vitalii Sediuk, a Ukrainian TV presenter, vaulted over the security barrier at the Maleficent premiere and struck Pitt, according to Variety. Security quickly subdued Sediuk and held him until the LAPD arrived to arrest him. He's been arrested on suspicion of misdemeanor battery. He is being held on $20,000 US bail.

This is not the first time that Sediuk has pulled one of his "pranks," which aren't particularly funny and seem more like run-of-the-mill harassment. Just a few weeks ago, he crashed the red carpet at the Cannes Film Festival and stuck his head under America Ferrera's dress. He's also tried to kiss Will Smith on the mouth and groped Leonardo DiCaprio and Bradley Cooper at other red carpet events. He even managed to be onstage at the Grammys this year when Adele accepted one of her awards.

In this series of photos, actor Will Smith reacts after Ukrainian TV reporter Vitalii Sediuk tried to kiss him at a May 2012 premiere of Men in Black III in Moscow. VIDEO STILL FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

From left, actors Djimon Hounsou, Cate Blanchett, America Ferrera and Kit Harington in Cannes on May 16. A man who turned out to be Vitalii Sediuk stuck his head under Ferrera's dress at the photocall. GETTY IMAGES

The Word

Tarantino and Thurman? Apparently, he's loved her for years

Love is in the air for the Bride: Uma Thurman and Quentin Tarantino are reportedly seeing each other.

Thurman, 44, broke up with her fiancé Arpad Busson last month. Since then, she and Tarantino, who has directed her in numerous films, have begun seeing each other, according to Us Weekly.

They were extremely cosy on the red carpet for Clouds of Sils Maria at Cannes — Thurman lay her head on his shoulder and whispered in his ear, while her director paramour danced for her amusement.

Thurman and Tarantino have worked together for 20 years and have always had a close relationship. Though they've been linked to others for much of that time — in addition to her long, on-and-off engagement to Busson, Thurman was married to Ethan Hawke for six years — this isn't the first time their relationship has strayed from being purely professional.

So is it serious? Sources say that Tarantino, at least, has strong feelings for the woman he's called his muse. "He's loved her for years," an insider says.

MELINDA TAUB/ METRO WORLD NEWS

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Union made in BBQ heaven

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While we here in Canada may see barbecuing as a seasonal kind of thing, those countries lucky enough to have a more forgiving climate consider the grill their primary cooking surface.

In South Africa the barbecue is so highly revered, the population voted to add braai (the Afrikaans word for it) to the name of their national holiday. Argentineans are no slouches when it comes to al fresco meal creation, either, calling both their grilling artistry, and the party that follows, asado. With barbecue the national dish in Argentina, the country's wines, especially those made from the malbec grape, show a slant towards a harmonious union with red meats.

Though malbec traces its roots back to the southwest of France, it's Argentina that's really run with the berry. Showing a balance of the grape's black fruit with pepper spice and bright acidity, Trapiche's 2011 Broquel Malbec ($14.95 - $17.99) makes a fine grilled meat mate, especially if you have a heavy hand when it comes to barbecue sauce.

PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.

Annabel Langbein, who brings good food into today's fast-paced world, shows us a veg-filled phyllo dough recipe that will satisfy even the most staunch meat lovers from her book The Free Range Cook

Clash of the textures: Silver Beet, Feta and Pine Nut Roll

THE FREE RANGE COOK
Annabel Langbein
gustotv.com

1. Preheat oven to 180 C. Trim half of the white stalks from the silver beet and discard them. Wash, dry and chop the leaves and the rest of the stalks.

2. Heat the butter in a medium pot and cook the onion over a low heat until it is soft but not browned — about 5 minutes. Add silver beet and cook until the water from the leaves evaporates, leaving the pan dry. Removing the moisture from the silver beet in this way helps to stop the pie going soggy.

3. Remove the pot from the heat and mix in the ricotta, feta, Parmesan, coriander, nutmeg, lemon zest and pine nuts. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Stir in the egg.

4. Place a sheet of phyllo pastry on the bench. Brush it with melted butter or spray it liberally with oil. Place a second sheet on top and brush it with butter or spray it with oil. Repeat to form a stack of 8 pastry sheets. The phyllo dries out quickly so you will need to work fast. Cover the unused phyllo with a damp tea towel while you work.

5. Form the silver beet mixture into a sausage shape along the longest edge of the pastry, leaving a 3-cm border at the sides.

6. Turn in the sides of the pastry like an envelope and roll it up gently and loosely to fully enclose the filling, forming a log shape. If you roll it too tight it will split. Transfer the log to a baking tray, brush the top with butter and bake until it is golden and crisp — about 40 minutes.

WATCH ANNABEL LANGBEIN FREE RANGE COOK MONDAY TO THURSDAY AT 5:30 P.M. EST, STARTING APRIL 28 ON GUSTO TV, CANADA'S NEW FOOD & LIFESTYLE CHANNEL. VISIT GUSTOTV.COM FOR FULL PROGRAM LINEUP AND MORE GREAT RECIPE IDEAS.

Ingredients

- 250 g silverbeet or spinach
- 2 tbsp butter
- 1 large onion, finely chopped
- 1 cup ricotta
- 3/4 cup feta, crumbled
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan
- 1/4 cup chopped coriander
- 1/2 tsp ground nutmeg
- finely grated zest of 1/2 lemon
- 1/3 cup pine nuts, toasted
- 1/2 tsp salt
- ground black pepper
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 8 sheets phyllo pastry
- melted butter or oil spray

This recipe serves six. ANNABEL LANGBEIN

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MLB

Road treating Rangers right

Leonys Martin doubled twice and scored three times, including the go-ahead run in the eighth inning, and the Texas Rangers beat Minnesota Twins 5-4 on Thursday to win their second straight four-game series on the road.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Success after Sochi

Dufour-Lapointe trio land jobs in Disney film

Canadian freestyle skiers Chloe, Justine and Maxime Dufour-Lapointe are moving from the slopes to show biz with cameo roles in the Quebec French-language version of Disney's "Planes: Fire & Rescue."

The sisters made a splash at the recent Sochi Olympics, where Justine won gold and Chloe took silver.

Maxime has been a regular competitor on the circuit since 2008.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA playoffs

"Just playing ball, man, having fun and enjoying the moment."

Lance Stephenson who infamously blew in LeBron James' ear during the Indiana Pacers' 93-90 win over the Miami Heat in Game 5 of the Eastern Conference finals on Wednesday night. Stephenson also interrupted a Heat huddle and was fined $10,000 for his second flop of the series in Game 5. Game 6 is Friday in Miami with the Heat holding a 3-2 advantage in the series.

Pressure points: West up for grabs

NHL playoffs. Last win will be toughest in series between final two Stanley Cup champions

Drew Doughty says Game 6 Friday night in Los Angeles is essentially an elimination game for the Kings. "This game has to be ours," the London native said. JEFF GROSS/GETTY IMAGES

Drew Doughty had just played more than 39 minutes in a double-overtime playoff game, and he still couldn't sleep on the Kings' flight back to Los Angeles.

The Western Conference finals have ascended to a new level of tension after the Blackhawks dodged Los Angeles' first attempt to eliminate them. Chicago trimmed its series deficit to 3-2 in an extra-time thriller in Game 5, while the Kings got a sleepless trip home.

Los Angeles gets another chance to advance in Game 6 on Friday night. While the Kings have been incredible in elimination games this spring, Doughty realizes they can't sleep on the opportunity before them at Staples Center.

"We know we can't let it go to a Game 7," Doughty said Thursday at the Kings' training complex. "No matter what, this game has to be ours. It's so important for us to advance to the Stanley Cup final. ... If we give them this game, they're going to have so much more life, and they're going to be a different team. We need to take that and deal with it."

Jonathan Quick and the NHL's best defensive team gave up five goals to the Blackhawks, who survived despite Corey Crawford's fourth straight unimpressive effort in Chicago's net in Game 5.

Los Angeles, which blew a lead heading to the third period for the first time this spring, has mostly downplayed the notion of payback for last season's conference finals loss to Chicago. But Doughty thinks it should be on the Kings' minds before what might be the defining game of their season.

"They know how to win," Doughty said. "We also know that they took our cup back from us last year, so now it's our turn. We want to eliminate this team. They eliminated us last year, and it's our turn to return the favour. We need to go into Staples believing that we can eliminate this team, and do just that."

While Doughty attempts to keep the Kings focused on Game 6, the Blackhawks intend to remember what got them off the canvas in Game 5 after the previous seven periods of the series were largely dominated by Los Angeles.

Before Game 5, the Blackhawks curiously insisted all the pressure in the series rested on the Kings, not the team facing three straight elimination games. Whether the facile psychological ploy helped or not, the champions still seem to think Los Angeles is the team in trouble.

"We want to stay with the mentality that we're putting all the pressure on them," Chicago captain Jonathan Toews said before the club's flight to the West Coast. "It's going to be tough for them to close it out and win that fourth game against us."

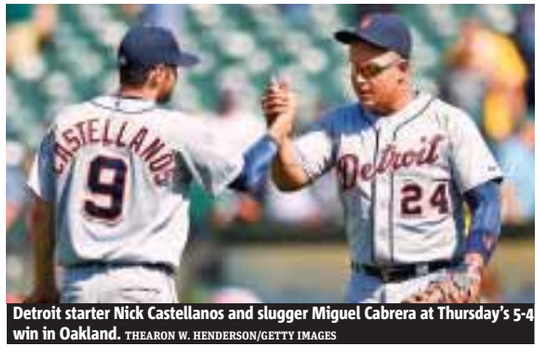
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

No Doughty

"They eliminated us last year, and it's our turn to return the favour. We need to go into Staples believing that we can eliminate this team, and do just that."

Kings defenceman Drew Doughty

Tigers pull even with A's to tie series



Detroit starter Nick Castellanos and slugger Miguel Cabrera at Thursday's 5-4 win in Oakland. THEARON W. HENDERSON/GETTY IMAGES

Miguel Cabrera hit a go-ahead sacrifice fly in the fifth to back Rick Porcello's eighth victory, and the Detroit Tigers beat the Oakland Athletics 5-4 on Thursday for a split of the four-game series between division leaders.

Porcello (8-2) overcame a career-high six walks, three shy of his season total coming into Thursday's start. Joe Nathan earned his 13th save after allowing Josh Donaldson's leadoff double, an RBI infield single by Yoenis Cespedes and Josh Reddick's run-scoring double.

On Thursday

5	4
Tigers	Athletics

It was Nathan's first outing since he surrendered Donaldson's game-ending three-run homer in Wednesday's 3-1 loss for his fourth blown save opportunity.

Victor Martinez doubled in two runs in the seventh and Cabrera also had an RBI groundout for the Tigers, who head to Seattle for the weekend before returning home.

Nick Punto hit a two-run homer in the fourth for Oakland, which wasted chances all game to lose for the seventh time in 20 games.

Porcello moved into second place in the American League for wins behind Toronto's Mark Buehrle.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 SPORTS

CFL and players' union take turns at rejecting proposals

Collective bargaining agreement. Cohon says league's best offer turned down by CFLPA

Talks between the CFL and its players on a new collective bargaining agreement broke down Thursday.

Representatives from the CFL left the second day of talks abruptly, and CFL Players' Association president Scott Flory says the league rejected a new union proposal.

CFL commissioner Mark Cohon says the players rejected a league proposal earlier Thursday.

"The Canadian Football League has sent its best offer for a new collective bargaining agreement directly to the players," Cohon said in a statement. "Unfortunately, this best offer was rejected by the CFLPA executive committee this morning. We strongly believe it is a fair and equitable agreement for both parties.

"We want football. We want our season to start on time. But not at the cost of the unrealistic proposal put forward by the CFLPA."

Flory says the CFLPA came off its original demand of revenue sharing, offering a compromise it called a "Revenue Protection Clause."

It allowed for a fixed salary cap, starting at $5.8 million and rising three per cent annually, for a minimum of two years.

After the second year, if there was an increase in revenue on a league-wide basis of more than $12 million, excluding the Grey Cup, the parties would renegotiate the cap or the collective bargaining agreement would be jointly terminated at the end of that season.

The union also proposed a one-time bonus to veteran players of a minimum compensation of $15,000 each.

The players' association was originally asking for a salary cap of $6.24 million.

The collective bargaining agreement ended at midnight ET, and training camps are scheduled to open on Sunday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Workers install seats in the south side stands at the TD Place at Lansdowne, home of the Ottawa Redblacks, on Thursday. PATRICK DOYLE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Giants quarterback Eli Manning had a rough 2013 season in which he felt the ill effects of an ankle injury. RON ANTONELLI/GETTY IMAGES

Manning springs to life in OTAs

Eli Manning participated with the first-team offence Thursday at the New York Giants' organized team activity, showing no signs of the ankle surgery he underwent nearly two months ago.

"I feel like I can do almost anything football related," said Manning, who took most of the snaps during the workout. "I'm not going to take any time off. This is the second day, and I want to see how it's responding. There is no swelling, no discomfort, no issues. I'm able to go about my business."

Quoted

We thought the progress would be slow, but he's so far ahead. There may be a day where he's a little sore, but he hasn't shown it yet."

Giants head coach Tom Coughlin on Eli Manning's recovery from off-season ankle surgery

Manning had ankle surgery in early April after enduring the worst season of his 10-year NFL career. He threw 27 interceptions with just 18 TDs and was sacked a career-high 39 times. The Giants finished 7-9.

The ankle bothered Manning for most of the season and knocked him out of the final game against the Washington Redskins, the first time Manning went to the sideline because of an injury in his career.

"My goal was always to be back for the OTAs," Manning said. "The doctors said that I needed seven weeks after surgery. They didn't tell me that I wouldn't be ready, but I had it in my mind that I should be ready. After three weeks, I knew I was feeling pretty good."

The Giants are installing a new version of the West Coast offence under the guidance of new offensive co-ordinator Ben McAdoo.

"I like it. Everything about it makes sense," Manning said.

"It's still the early stages, but I like where we're headed."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PGA

McIlroy's success at TPC carries over into the Memorial

One week after finally getting a big win, Rory McIlroy showed Thursday that he might be ready for another in the Memorial.

McIlroy made two eagles on the back nine at Muirfield Village and opened with a 9-under 63 — despite making a double bogey with a wedge in his hand on the 14th hole. That gave him a three-shot lead over Masters champion Bubba Watson, Paul Casey and Chris Kirk.

McIlroy won the BMW PGA Championship last week in England. That was the strongest field he had beaten in more than two years. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Soccer

Paraguay beats Cameroon's B team

Cameroon slumped to a 2-1 defeat against Paraguay after resting several leading players in a World Cup warm-up game on Thursday.

Midfielder Oscar Romero put Paraguay ahead in the fourth minute and Roque Santa Cruz added a second in the 68th.

Maxim Choupo-Moting had Cameroon's only goal.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cameroon's Vincent Aboubakar goes for a bicycle kick. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Giro d'Italia

Arredondo breaks from pack for win

Julian Arredondo claimed the biggest win of his career with a solo victory on the 18th stage of the Giro d'Italia on Thursday, while Nairo Quintana retained the overall leader's pink jersey as the race returned to the mountains.

Julian Arredondo GETTY IMAGES

The 25-year-old Arredondo had been part of a breakaway and made his move with just under four kilometres remaining to ride alone up the summit finish to Rifugio Panarotta. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

For more news from the NFL, including the Seahawks signing one of their wide receivers to a contract extension, scan the image using the Metro News app.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Relationships seem to be taking on a more aggressive edge, due to the presence of Mars in your opposite sign. Keep reminding yourself that life is not a battle and that people are not the enemy. Compromise is best.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You are advised not to make too many plans. If someone asks you to take on extra responsibilities, turn them down flat. Your health could be at risk if you push too hard.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
The tempo of life has picked up and it will pick up more today and over the weekend. Can you stand the pace? Of course you can. You think and act twice as fast as most other people.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Someone will try to compel you to do things you don't want to do today. It may be that for now you have no choice but to do what they say but start looking around for ways you can get out from under their thumb.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You seem to be endowed with almost limitless energy at the moment and are getting so much done that it's unlikely you will let up soon. Remember though that it is quality work that counts, not quantity.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You've built up momentum in recent weeks and you will be moving onward and upward for some time yet. Having said that, you know you cannot keep up this pace forever.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Mars in your sign makes life more exciting. Wherever you go and whatever you do today, you must seize the initiative and make sure the world knows you are a force to be reckoned with.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You don't have to be the life of the party and with Saturn in your sign it's unlikely you will win any prizes for popularity. But do you care? Of course not!

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
By all means stand up for what you believe but don't turn it into a war. Just because some disagree with you does not mean you have to beat them into submission.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
If someone in a position of power says or does something that you disagree with today you would be wise not to let it show. According to the planets, you are not yet strong enough to confront them directly.

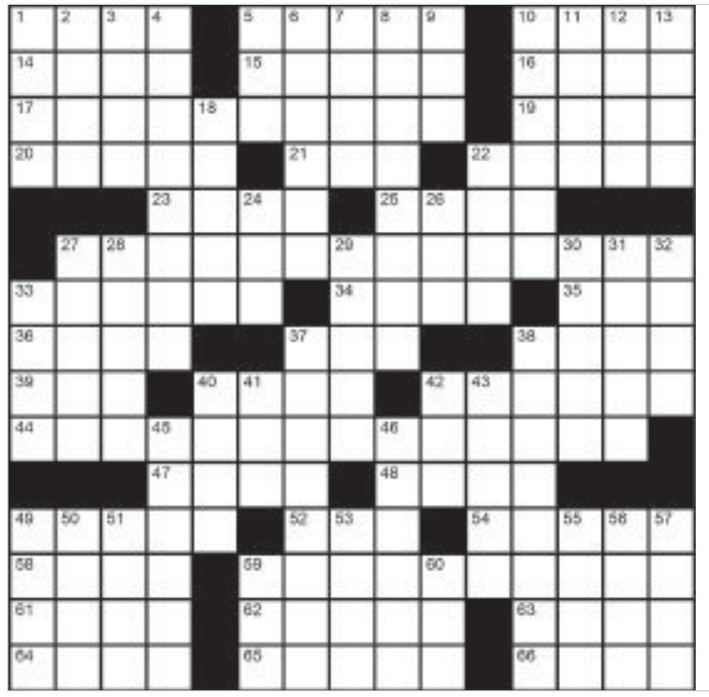
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
With the Sun and Mars well placed in your chart, you can easily find ways to get past other people's defenses. You can be subtle about it but more likely you prefer to blast your way through. It's more fun.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
There is a lot of gossip at the moment and it could damage your credibility. You must speak up and let others know that what is being said about you is not remotely true. You're just not that bad. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



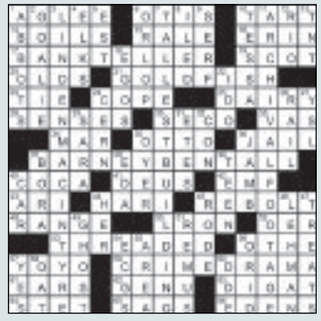
Across

1. Monsieur Le Pew
5. Loudly sleep
10. Bobby Darin's "__ the Knife"
14. Oil of __
15. Mr. Thompson of "Saturday Night Live"
16. Reign
17. Angelina Jolie's new Disney movie
19. Eminem tune
20. __ album
21. Dress
22. Temperaments
23. Ms. Bombeck
25. $1000, commonly
27. Saskatchewan's provincial flower: 3 wds.
33. Michael C. Hall title role
34. River of England
35. My own, in Latin
36. River islets
37. Deception
38. Bird's 'snout'
39. Business boss, briefly
40. Songstress Tori
42. Abrasion
44. Jean Coutu and London Drugs: 2 wds.
47. "Star Trek" episode, __ Time
48. Music's *N__
49. Comedian Mr. Marx
52. Ad __ committee
54. Small boat
58. Sacred Buddhist peak
59. Scenic attraction in Nova Scotia: 2 wds.
61. "Oh, ___ careful!" (Play it safe)
62. FOX News host Ms. Van Susteren
63. Noun-creating suffix
64. Outlying
65. "__ __ be expected..." (No big surprises)
66. "Star Trek: The Next Generation" role, Lieutenant Commander __

Down

1. Ceremonial magnificence
2. Valley where David slew Goliath
3. Texas: __ Duro Canyon
4. Optometrists administer them: 2 wds.
5. Jet __
6. Fruit juice
7. Count Basie's "__ _'Clock Jump"
8. Made sense: 2 wds.
9. 'Persist' suffix
10. Neil Young penned tune that goes "...when the messenger brought me a letter.": 2 wds.
11. CAW = Canadian __ Workers
12. Clothed
13. Mattel dolls
18. Strong suit
22. Way
24. Madonna's "__ Girl"
26. Fellows
27. Consider
28. Surplus
29. Clamorous
30. "_ __ business!"
31. Jumps
32. Pilot's 'steering wheel'
33. Not wet/not dry
37. London, ON born actor Gene (b.1891 - d.1957) who is the father of actress June
38. Mason's favourite hue, perhaps: 2 wds.
40. Mil. stockpile
41. __ jacket
42. Bashful
43. Able, archaically
45. Zorro's 'Z'-marking prop
46. Actor, George _. __
49. Daytime TV host Ms. Kotb
50. "I __ __ the opinion that..."
51. Country's Ms. McEntire
53. UK awards since 1917
55. 'Collection'-meaning suffix
56. Book genre, briefly
57. One-named bassist
59. Movie special effects, commonly
60. Spiriual 'way'

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku

4	8	3	6	9	5	2	1	7
7	2	6	3	8	1	4	9	5
5	1	9	7	2	4	6	3	8
3	9	1	4	6	8	7	5	2
2	6	5	1	7	3	9	8	4
8	7	4	9	5	2	3	6	1
9	3	2	5	1	7	8	4	6
1	4	7	8	3	6	5	2	9
6	5	8	2	4	9	1	7	3

5			7		4			8
7	2	3				9	4	6
		9	3		7	1		
3								7
		6	2		5	8		
1	5	4				3	6	9
8			5		6			1

Today 23°/10° Partly cloudy
Saturday 23°/11° Sunny
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London Clean & Green Schedule for June 2014

London CLEAN & Green PRESENTS

Greening Our City

JUNE SAT 7 — Gathering on the Green
10 am - 5 pm

All Day BBQ, Charlotte's Tea Garden, mini-golf, face painting, games, dunk tank, live entertainment and much more!

Village Green, Wortley Rd. at Elmwood Ave.

oscolondon.ca

COMMUNITY OLD SOUTH ORGANIZATION

JUNE SAT 7 — Tree Sale
9 am - Noon

Masonville - Stoneybrook Tree Sale, TD Green Energy Park, 1663 Richmond St.

reforestlondon.ca

Sale

JUNE SAT 7 — Tree Planting
2 - 4 pm

200 native trees and shrubs to plant at Ambleside Park, 257 Ambleside Dr.

reforestlondon.ca

JUNE THU 12 — Cycling Presentation
7 pm

TREA presents "How Safe is Cycling" by Henk Ketelaars

Grosvenor Lodge, 1017 Western Rd.

trea.ca

JUNE SAT 14 — Dundas Street Festival
10 am - 4 pm

Celebrating the very best in arts, performance, and community. Something for everyone to enjoy

londonfringe.ca

ourstreet.ca

PLAY ON THE STREET

JUNE SAT 14 — Tree Sale
11 am - 2 pm

Woodfield Street Fair, Princess Ave from William to Palace St.

reforestlondon.ca

Sale

JUNE SUN 15 — Tree Planting
10 am - 1pm

400 native trees and shrubs to plant at Reservoir Park, 869 Commissioners Rd. W.

reforestlondon.ca

JUNE SUN 15 — Trails Open
10 am - 4 pm

Free day use admission to Fanshawe Conservation Area in partnership with Trails Open London! Something for everyone to enjoy.

thamesriver.on.ca

JUNE MON 16 — Urban League of London AGM
7 pm

Guest speaker Ben Gomberg (*former City of Chicago Cycling Coordinator*), Aeolian Hall, 795 Dundas St. E

urbanleague.ca

URBAN LEAGUE LONDON

JUNE TUE 17 — Bike City Great City
7 - 8:30 pm

A documentary produced by David Chernushenko, Ottawa City Councillor. Great cities for cycling are better places for everyone (highlights Copenhagen). Central Library (Stevenson & Hunt room), 251 Dundas St.

londonpubliclibrary.ca

BIKE CITY GREAT CITY

JUNE SAT 21 — Tree Sale
9 - 11 am

ReForest London, 944 Western Counties Rd.

reforestlondon.ca

Sale

JUNE SUN 22 — London Bike Festival
10 am - 4 pm

Education, guest speakers and entertainment. Something for everyone. Springbank Gardens, 285 Wonderland Rd. S. in Wonderland Complex

trea.ca

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Learn more at **Londoncleangreen.ca**